

Message Text

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PASS TREASURY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP
SUBJECT: VISIT OF MR. HUGO D. BRAGA

1. MR. HUGO D. BRAGA, SECRETARY OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, MINISTRY OF FINANCE, HAS BEEN SELECTED AS A REPRESENTATIVE FROM BRAZIL TO PARTICIPATE IN A COMPARATIVE LAW PROJECT SPONSORED BY STATE DEPARTMENT AND ORGANIZED BY THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL LEGAL EXCHANGE OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION. HE WILL BE IN WASHINGTON MAY 9-16, DURING WHICH ONE-HALF OF EACH WORK-DAY HAS BEEN RESERVED FOR PERSONAL APPOINTMENTS. WE ANTICIPATE THAT MR. BRAGA OR THE COORDINATOR OF THIS PROGRAM WILL BE CONTACTING TREASURY TO ARRANGE FOR MEETINGS. FOR YOU INFORMATION, THE TREASURY ATTACHE HAS PROVIDED TO MR. BRAGA THE FOLLOWING NAMES OF APPROPRIATE INDIVIDUALS TO CAL: JOHN JOHNSON, OASIA, BRAZIL DESK OFFICER AND THE FOLLOWING DEPUTIES TO THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS: BARNETT A. KRESS (DOMESTIC FINANCE), LAWRENCE F. O'BRIEN, (TAXES), AND LISLIE J. BARR, (INTERNATIONAL).

2. MR. BRAGA IS VERY INTERESTED IN MEETING WITH INDIVIDUALS IN LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS IN TREASURY TO LEARN HOW THE TREASURY ORGANIZES ITSELF FOR LIAISON WITH THE CONGRESS. HIS RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE
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BRAZILIAN MINISTRY OF FINANCE CORRESPOND CLOSELY TO THOSE OF TREASURY'S ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS. HE IS INTERESTED IN THE PREPARATION OF PRESENTATIONS TO CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES, MONITORING OF TREASURY INTERESTS IN THE CONGRESS, AND MAINTENANCE OF CONTACTS WITH CONGRESSMEN, SENATORS, AND STAFF. HE WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH

TREASURY OFFICIALS AND STAFF AND ALSO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN PERHAPS ACCOMPANYING LIAISON PERSONNEL IN CALLS ON THE CONGRESS IN ORDER TO MEET APPROPRIATE INDIVIDUALS THERE AND TO OBSERVE HEARINGS AND FLOOR DEBATES.

3. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT MR. BRAGA'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON PRESENTS AN IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE EXPOSURE AND TRAINING TO A BRAZILIAN FINANCE MINISTRY OFFICIAL IN AN AREA IN WHICH U.S. HAS OBVIOUS EXPERTISE. MR. BRAGA ALREADY HAS AN ACTIVE OFFICE AND WE BELIEVE THAT CURRENT EVIDENCE OF BRAZILIAN DOMESTIC POLITICAL EVOLUTION SUGGESTS THAT THE LEGISLATIVE LIAISON FUNCTION WILL BE OF GROWING IMPORTANCE IN COMING YEARS. WE THEREFORE URGE TREASURY TO BE AS RESPONSIVE AS POSSIBLE IN ARRANGING APPOINTMENTS FOR MR. BRAGA. A POSITIVE RECEPTION WILL HELP TO REINFORCE ALREADY CLOSE TREASURY-FINANCE MINISTRY RELATIONS, CONTRIBUTE TO THE ABILITY OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH THE BRAZILIAN CONGRESS, AND PERHAPS HELP TO CONVEY TO SELECTED U.S. CONGRESSMEN AND STAFF A BROADER PERSPECTIVE ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CONGRESS AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH IN BRAZIL.
JOHNSON

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